

CONFERENCE COMES TO CLOSE WITH RECEPTION

Hundreds of Visitors Entertained at Hotel Warwick by the Newport News Teachers.

GUESTS PLEASED WITH THE CITY

President Saunders Says the Gathering Here Has Never Been Surpassed, If Equalled—Resolutions of Appreciation—Officers Elected—Final Sessions Held.

With a brilliant reception at the Warwick Hotel last night, the third annual Educational conference of Virginia closed its history.

Seven or eight hundred people attended the function, which proved a fitting climax to what the visiting educators declare to have been the most successful and enjoyable educational conference yet held in Virginia.

The guests were received in the parlors on the second floor of the hotel. In the receiving line were Mayor M. J. Jones and Mrs. Jones, District Examiner Willis A. Jenkins and Mrs. Jenkins, Superintendent of Schools W. C. Morton, Principal of the High School D. A. Dutton, Mrs. Cerinda Evans, principal of the North End school, Miss Mollie Hope, principal of the Twenty-eighth street school, Miss Mary Wynne Jones and Miss Nannie L. Turner.

From the parlors the guests were ushered into the dining saloon, where punch, ice cream and cake were served. Misses Emma McVicar, Nellie Kerlin, Lottie Ashby and Stella Desmond presided at the punch bowl. The punch table, which was located in the center of the room, was decorated with pink carnations and similar.

Musical was furnished by Anderson's orchestra, which was stationed in the hall on the third floor of the hotel. The reception began at 9:30 o'clock and ran for an hour and a half the guests continued to arrive at the hotel. The hall, parlors and dining saloon were crowded with people throughout the evening.

Success of Conference. When the reception was nearing an end, Hon. Joseph H. Saunders, of Norfolk, the retiring president of the State Teachers' Association, when asked by a Daily Press reporter as to the success of the Conference made the following statement:

"The Conference equals, if not surpasses, any educational conference held in the state. It is most gratifying to the officers of the Association that it has been such a splendid success. We feel satisfied that the 2,000 teachers will return to their work greatly inspired and with new light on many of the problems discussed here. They will carry back to their respective communities the feeling that Newport News gives to its guests a true and warm hearted Southern hospitality and will ever have a high appreciation of the splendid people who have made this splendid city. We are proud of our entertainment here and we feel satisfied that the people of Newport News are equally proud of having had us here. We feel that the conference has benefited the people of this city in that it has given the school patrons a clearer insight into the objects and aims of the principals and teachers."

Final General Session. A fairly large crowd attended the final general conference in the auditorium of the Newport News Baptist church last night. President George C. Rounds, of the Trustees' Association, presided. Following a vocal solo by Mrs. Alexander Willis, President Joseph H. Saunders of the State Teachers' Association, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

"Resolved—That the thanks of this Conference be tendered:

"First—To the press of the city for their reports of our meetings, to the railroad, for the special train, to the Newport News & Old Point Electric Railway, to the various churches that have opened their auditoriums for the meetings, and to the Young Men's Christian Association.

"Third—To the following organizations and persons who added so much to the pleasure of the attending meetings by the excellent musical programs rendered: The Hampton Roads Glee Club, the High School chorus, Mrs. L. S. Lear, Mrs. Alexander Willis, Mr. J. H. Graft, Mr. O. H. Lehman and Mrs. C. C. Epps, organist.

"Fourth—To Mr. James E. Able and the International Business College for free private correspondence and free stenographic and typewriting services.

"Fifth—To the school board of the city of Newport News for the courtesy in giving the visiting teachers an opportunity of seeing the excellent work done in their city schools and to Sup. W. C. Morton, Examiner Willis A. Jenkins and Principal D. A. Dutton as well as all other members of the local teachers' association for their untiring efforts to make our stay in this city a pleasant one."

"Sixth—To Dr. H. R. Friswell for his invitation to be the guest at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute on Friday afternoon."

President Rounds then made a few closing remarks, complimenting the teachers for their work in the past, in concluding he introduced Hon. W. W. King, the patron of the

teachers' pension bill which recently was passed by the state legislature. Mr. King spoke on "Teachers' Pensions." In his address he explained the purposes of his bill and the benefits derived by the teachers. His talk was enjoyed by the audience and frequently he was interrupted by laughter and applause.

Dr. E. C. Levy, of Richmond, made the closing address, speaking on "The Public School as a Factor in Public Health." He gave a logical discussion of the subject and made a strong impression on his hearers.

Important Closing Sessions.

All of the various departments of the Conference held important closing sessions yesterday morning and afternoon. Following the morning sessions, which were made as short as possible, hundreds of the educators boarded special cars and went to the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, where they were the guests of Dr. Friswell for three hours. The visitors were taken through the various class rooms, industrial shops, and the agricultural department of the Institute.

After luncheon was served the educators returned to this city on their special cars shortly after 3 o'clock and later the regular afternoon session were held, the departments concluding their work at those sessions.

Department of Principals.

At its morning session, the department of principals adopted a resolution urging the State board of education in the future to elect only such men as division superintendents who are graduates of reputable institutions, who have special professional fitness, and who have had experience either as teachers or principals. The resolution also pleads for salaries for the superintendents commensurate with their fitness and their responsibilities.

The principals elected the following as members of the W. W. Adams, Richmond, First circuit; E. S. Brinkley, Norfolk, Second circuit; S. T. Gullahan, Third circuit; H. S. Hooker, Roanoke, Fourth circuit; John S. Simpson, Poppon Springs, Fifth circuit.

State Teachers' Association.

The feature of the closing session yesterday morning of the State Teachers' Association, was the address of Commissioner George H. Lamar, of Maryland, who is the delegate to the Virginia Educational Association.

He spoke on the merit basis for the election of teachers and the kind of men to select for division superintendents. He declared that politics should be removed from the schools and that teachers should be selected on their merit and not because of the political pull of their relatives or friends. Superintendents he said, should be selected from the crop of principals and teachers in the cities and counties.

Teachers Elect Officers.

At its final session yesterday afternoon in the Newport News Baptist church, the State Teachers' Association elected officers for the ensuing year as follows:

President—J. H. Binford, of Richmond.

Vice-presidents—George W. Guy, Hampton, First congressional district; J. R. L. Johnson, Franklin, Second district; A. B. Chandler, Richmond, Third district; C. B. Bowers, Burkeville, Fourth district; P. S. Barnes, Danville, Fifth district; H. S. Hooker, Roanoke, Sixth district; Dr. Ormond Stone, University of Virginia, Seventh district; J. D. Harris, Warrenton, Eighth district; F. B. Fitzpatrick, Pulaski, Ninth district; J. G. Peter, Covington, Tenth district.

Secretary—Alger Woolfork, Courtland.

Treasurer—N. P. Painter, Roanoke. At this session, Dr. Robert T. Kerlin, of the State Female Normal School, Farmville, delivered a very interesting and instructive address on "How to Select and Use School Libraries."

The retiring treasurer, Mr. Payne, reported that the association had more than \$1,000 in the treasury. This is the largest balance the organization has yet had.

Following Mr. Lamar's address, the meeting adjourned and the program for the session was completed in the afternoon. At the morning session, a resolution was adopted commending President Saunders for his work during the past year.

Trustees' Association.

The School Trustees' Association held its closing session in the Trinity Methodist church at 9:30 o'clock yesterday morning. President George C. Rounds, presiding. Officers were named for the ensuing year as follows:

President—J. N. Schrell, of Southampton; first vice-president—A. J. Reaves, of Caroline; second vice-president—E. D. Robertson, of Charlotte; third vice-president—A. G. Crockett, Wythe; fourth vice-president—George W. Zachary, of Alexandria; secretary—treasurer—B. F. Wright, York; assistant secretary—M. F. McGeehe, Caroline.

The committee on plans for raising local taxes submitted a resolution providing that the supervisors of all counties in the State be invited to form a special conference to be held annually with the Virginia Educational Association and that the superintendents throughout the State be requested to organize patrons' leagues similar to those that have been organized in some of the cities of the State.

A vote of thanks was extended the retiring officers and a resolution was passed endorsing the Davis bill now pending before Congress and urging the Virginia representatives in Congress.

(Continued on Third Page.)

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

State Organization Effected During Education Conference.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE INTERESTED

W. M. Black, Librarian of Jones Memorial Institution At Lynchburg, Chosen President—Meetings to be Held With the Conference.

The organization of a State Library Association was one of the results of the annual Virginia Educational Conference which came to a close here last night. An enthusiastic meeting of a number of well known people interested in the project was held at the Young Men's Christian Association, Thursday, Nov. 26. W. M. Black, of the Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, called the meeting to order and briefly outlined the purpose.

After some discussion it was voted that an association be formed, and the chair named Dr. H. R. Melville, State Librarian, Dr. J. S. Wilson, of William and Mary College, and Mrs. B. B. Munford, of Richmond, a committee to nominate officers for the first year.

The committee's report, which was unanimously adopted, was as follows: President—W. H. Sargent, of the Norfolk Public Library.

Secretary—W. M. Black, of the Jones Memorial Library.

Treasurer—E. G. Seem, assistant State Librarian.

The selection of a committee of three, which, with the officers, will draft a constitution and by-laws, to be presented at the next meeting, was left to the president.

The next meeting of the association will be held at such time and place as the executive committee shall designate, but it was the sense of the meeting that the local sessions should, for some years at least, be held at the same place and during the sessions of the Educational Conference.

Among those attending the meeting were: Dr. H. R. Melville and Mrs. E. C. Minor, of the Virginia State Library; Miss Lucy Coleman, Richmond training school; Mrs. B. B. Munford, president Richmond Education Association; Mrs. L. R. Haskill, secretary of the Co-operative Educational Association; Mr. Jackson Davis, superintendent of schools of Henrico county; Miss Von Schilling, principal of Symmes Academy, Hampton; Miss Bernice Taylor, assistant principal of Manchester High school; Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Sherman, of Fairfax county; Mr. U. S. Duncan and Mrs. Ivan H. Wise, of the Library Board, Newport News; Dr. J. S. Wilson, professor of history at William and Mary College, and Mr. W. M. Black, librarian of the Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg.

AT THE ACADEMY

A wonderful play wonderfully acted was seen by the theatergoers who were so fortunate as to be at the Academy of Music last night when Henri Bernstein's "Thief" was presented by Charles Frohman. Nothing finer has been given the drama loving public in years, and only those who have seen and appreciated "The Thief" can know what those who have not have missed.

The play is called a comedy, and its story, which, as it must be told in a synopsis, is not especially remarkable, has been given in these columns. The scene is laid in France and the action takes place within twenty-four hours. What makes the play is the author's sympathetic, striking and altogether extraordinary treatment of an ordinary subject.

After all, the acting makes "The Thief" for in incapable hands it probably would be boring, if not positively farcical. Success depends so entirely upon the second act, in which two people only are seen and which is one tense, nerve-racking scene from the rise to the fall of the curtain, that without two great players in the leading parts it would be worse than useless to present "The Thief."

The two great players provided for this "road" production by Mr. Frohman are Charles Dalton and Miss Edie Shannon. Both are superb, and Miss Shannon, at least, probably is doing the finest thing in her successful career. Mr. Dalton, as Richard Voysin, and Miss Shannon, as Marie



Miss Marguerite DeVou, with "The Girl Question."

Louise Voysin, make the second act a bonfire scene one that can never be forgotten once it is seen. The wife, obliged to explain the possession of money and finery which her husband's income could not have provided, confesses her guilt of a theft for which a youngster who has been writing her schoolboy love letters is about to suffer. She lays bare her very soul, telling how in her idolatrous love for her husband she went deeper and deeper into debt in her efforts to dress as well as other women, fearing that if she suffered by comparison with others she would lose the love of the husband. Then the husband's jealousy is aroused; he does not believe all of the story, and starts out to find his old friend, the father of the boy lover. The woman pleads for a delay until the morning, saying their lives will be wrecked, and finally, desperate and despairing, she starts to fling herself from the window. To prevent her from taking her life, the husband agrees to remain until morning, and thus the act closes.

In this scene, climax follows climax until one wonders vaguely how much further the thing can go; for a time the players are forgotten and the characters become real; then one is briefly conscious at intervals that it is acting after all, and becomes curious to know how much longer these players can sustain such a strain. Then the curtain falls and one settles back in the seat, with muscles relaxed and brain bewildered, and a curious, choky, tired feeling about the breast and throat.

The third act brings the play to a close in the dignified sort of way expected by one who knows the story; the husband, clearing seeing at last, making the necessary explanations, and saying "this page is closed forever" as he takes his wife in his arms.

The part of Madame Voysin was played originally in New York by Miss Margaret Livingston, of whom William Winter, the dean of American theatrical critics said "Miss Margaret Livingston's impersonation of Mrs. Voysin is notable for its sincerity, sympathy and force." * * * A slight impediment in her speech, which has yet to be overcome, constrains her to an obvious effort of articulation. * * * All that Mr. Winter said about Miss Livingston, except as to the impediment of speech, may with truth be applied to Miss Shannon. Mr. Dalton has the role with which Kyle Bellows was entrusted in the New York production. Mr. Dalton is a sterling actor and he gives to Voysin the virility, tenderness and repression that the part requires. It is hard to conceive of anyone portraying the role more effectively.

The other five characters in the play, while one or two give opportunities for some excellent acting, are comparatively unimportant and one comes near losing sight of them. Every one is in good hands, beginning with Raymond Lazarus, the friend of Voysin and father of the boy lover, played by that excellent actor, Herbert Kelzay. Leonard Ide is the self-sacrificing boy lover; Arthur Lawrence is M. Gondoin, the detective; Miss Edith Blair, is Isabel Legardes. Three beautiful stage settings are used, and the accessories are complete.

A fairly large audience saw and enjoyed the play.

"The Girl Question."

George Martin produced the musical numbers of "The Girl Question," which comes to the Academy next Thursday, December 3, and they are said to be novel, full of ginger, and artistic in the extreme. Martin's predominant idea is always to have action every minute and not rely on stage pictures to hold the attention and interest of the audience.

Among the numbers in "The Girl Question" are "Oh, Gee Be Sweet to Me, Kid," "I Hate to Work on Monday," "Walk With Me Until I'm Dreamy," and "When Eyes Like Yours Look Into Mine."

The sale of seats opens Tuesday next.

Vaudeville and Pictures Today.

The vaudeville and picture show will be resumed at the Academy of Music this afternoon, and the matinee and evening performances will be given at the usual hours. All three of the vaudeville acts which which pleased so much early in the week, and Mr. Spitzer's illustrated song, are on the bill for today.

Manager Becker announces a brand new show of moving pictures for the performances.

TROOPS WITHDRAWN.

Night Rider Region Being Evacuated By Kentucky Militia. (By Associated Press.)

HOPKINSVILLE, KY., Nov. 27.—The withdrawal of troops from the "night rider" region of Western Kentucky began today. The first camp evacuated was at Hickman, where recently a family of negroes were murdered. Soldiers this afternoon left Trigg county. Those at Gracely, Cobb, Dawson and various other places will break camp tomorrow. Guards will be left at Murray and Eddyville, where conditions are still said to be critical.

Many protests have been sent to Governor Wilson against the removal of the troops by citizens who fear that the night rider activity will be resumed in these districts.

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\$18.00 and \$20.00 Men's Raincoats, positively guaranteed waterproof, latest shades	\$8.45	\$3.00 and \$4.00 Men's Pants, in Stripes and Mixtures, a variety of patterns	\$1.65
10c Handkerchiefs	3c	25c Hose	18c
50c Underwear	37c	25c Suspenders	17c
50c and 75c Shirts	39c	\$1.25 Kid Gloves	89c
25c Neckwear	15c	\$2.50 Hats	\$1.39
25c Neckwear	19c		

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Negro Brakeman Killed.

(By Associated Press.)

RICHMOND, VA., Nov. 27.—The forward engine of a double header northbound passenger train on the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad left the rails at Elba, within the city limits early today, causing a buckle in the train. A negro brakeman was killed and a negro fireman badly injured.

Conductor Thomas Walton was caught under the wreckage which had to be cut away before he could be released. He was only slightly burned, however.



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BIRTH STONES.

If you were born in January, Garnet; February, Amethyst; March, Blood Stone; April, Diamond; May, Emerald; June, Pearl; July, Ruby; August, Sardonyx; September, Sapphire; October, Opal; November, Topaz; December, Turquoise.

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